

LEBANON AND THE POWERS OF THE NORTH

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Kiryat Shmona

Tony always reminds visitors that there is a welcome based on God's Word in **Gen 35:9-14**; **Eph 2:11-20**; **Ps 87:1-6**. Even gentiles are "Born Again" in Zion. "So, welcome to your Land as fellow members of the Commonwealth of Israel. This is not Replacement theology, but inclusive theology. As gentiles you are grafted in!"

This fact gives us responsibilities as well as privileges. The greatest is to pray for this Land and its people. God's overall plan, for all the nations, is to work through His local body. Please pray that in the Land, His body will take its rightful place, especially in the Pro-Life work and fulfil God's high calling. Please read **Deut 21:1-9** and ask God whether it is applicable today.

We believe in spiritual warfare. It is the honour given to God's saints. **Ps 149** But not that saints would come into the Land, stir up a hornets nest, and then go home and leave the local body to pick up the pieces. We all need to be prepared, trained

and of one mind. That can only be when you are PART of the Local Body.

We are warned in God's Word of the evil that will come upon this Land from the North. This has been true in the past; it is true of the present and will be in the future. Let us look at some of the strongholds in this area. Remembering **1 Cor 10:26** "For the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."



We will start at the top. Mt Hermon is referred to in **Ps 68:15-16**; **Ps 133:3**; **Matt 17:1,2** It is the mount of transfiguration **Matt 28:16-19** rather than Tabor. It seems appropriate that the Great Commission was delivered here. Jewish tradition says the Abrahamic Covenant was given on Mt Hermon **Gen 15**. Mt. Hermon is indeed the high place of all high places. See the book of **Kings**.

It is the place of Nimrod's castle. **Gen 10:8-12**. He characterizes those who rebel against God. There is also a connection with the Masonic arm of the crusaders and with the Hashishin - the assassins. In

198BC Antiochus 3rd brought Pan to the Banias (Paniás) springs. Pan was such a destructive demon-god that his temples were located outside cities. He is the God of goatherds, music, nymphs and homosexuals, plus many other things. In 26BC Caesar Augustus gave Panias and the Hula Valley to Herod Antipas. In 2BC Herod died and his son Philip built his capital at Panias and renamed it Caesarea Philippi. In those times it was known as the "gates of hell." See **Matt 16:18** "I will build my church . . ." in reply to the revelation given to Peter.

Dan/Laish in disobedience relocated to a site in the land of their full blood brother Naphtali. **Judges 17-18**. Tribe of Dan stole priest and idols and went on to destroy the people of Laish. Jereboam's golden calves were placed in Dan. **1 Kg 12:28,29; 2 Kg 10:29, 13:6**. As a result of their violent behaviour in this region, Dan is not listed amongst the tribes in Revelation.

1 Kg 16:30-31 it records that Ahab married Jezebel from Tyre. Her father was the king of Sidon. **1 Kg 18:19**. She fed 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah at her table. Although there are variations of the name - Ashtoreth, Ashtoreh, Astarte, Athena, Atargatis, Istar, Anat, Venus and maybe the reference to "Queen of Heaven" **Jer 7:18; 44:17-19** all refer to Jezebel's evil influence involving child sacrifice, which led many to sin and eventually the nation into captivity. The names might change but the spirit is the same and it still prevails here.

The Beka'a valley runs north-south through the centre of Lebanon. In this valley drugs

are grown, pornography is produced and it is an international terrorist training centre.

Baalbeck, (Heliopolis, city of the Sun) lies in the Beka'a valley 85 km from Beirut. The largest of the pagan temples is still in existence. Roman Emperor Antonius Pius (AD 138 - 161) began

the building and it was continued by Septimius Severus and other rulers down to Caracalla (AD211 - 217). The Romans built Baalbeck to honour Jupiter, Baal and Bacchus. It became a centre for sun worship, and it was visited by leading rulers and prominent people from far and wide, including Yasser Arafat.

Rogem Hiri is another spiritual centre, located between Hermon and Gamla and originates probably from the 3rd millennium BC. Here there are five concentric stone circles. The outer one is ½ mile in circumference. The walls are 8 feet high and 10 feet wide. In the centre there is a massive cairn measuring 60 feet in diameter. It has clear religious signs and symbols. And it was in relation to all these spiritual powers, that the scriptures are so clear "Do not even enquire" **Deut 12:1-3**. Instead Israel was encouraged to turn away from foreign gods and bring forth "Fruit of Repentance." **Isaiah 27:9**.